

## URBAN LEGENDS GOD WANTS ME TO BE HAPPY

### Happiness

- Happiness is temporary.
- Happiness is conditional.
- Happiness is often based on circumstances and possessions.

### Joy

- Joy is not based on my circumstances.

<sup>9</sup> We are ignored, even though we are well known. We live close to death, but we are still alive. We have been beaten, but we have not been killed. <sup>10</sup> Our hearts ache, but we always have joy. We are poor, but we give spiritual riches to others. We own nothing, and yet we have everything.

**2 Corinthians 6:9-10 NLT**

<sup>2</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. <sup>3</sup> For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. <sup>4</sup> So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. **James 1:2-4 NLT**

- Joy is not based on possessions.

<sup>6</sup> Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. <sup>7</sup> After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. <sup>8</sup> So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content. **1 Timothy 6:6-8 NLT**

There is nothing wrong with owning stuff. The problem is when stuff owns you.

- Joy is produced by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>17</sup> For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. <sup>18</sup> If you serve Christ with this attitude, you will please God, and others will approve of you, too.

**Romans 14:17-18 NLT**

Happiness is a feeling driven by the temporary fix.

Joy is a mindset empowered and produced by the Holy Spirit.

- God is all about eternal things.
- We are more focused on temporal things.

God placed His Holy Spirit inside you so that you can have more than just happiness.

- The Holy Spirit - The presence of God living in you.
- The Holy Spirit is the source of joy.
- The Holy Spirit produces what we really need.

<sup>22</sup> But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! **Galatians 5:22-23 NLT**

Joy allows you to smile in the middle of a storm or in the middle of a pandemic.

<sup>16</sup> Always be joyful. <sup>17</sup> Never stop praying. <sup>18</sup> Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NLT**

Next Steps for me today...

- Realize that God wants more for me.
- Allow God to change my thinking that will change my focus.
- Receive the gift of eternal life through Jesus Christ.